

Application No.: 10/624,381
Amendment Dated: June 10, 2005
Reply to Final Office Action of: March 10, 2005

MAT-8439US

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1, 3, 14 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Popovic (U.S. Patent No. 4,979,149). In addition, claims 6, 13 and 22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Popovic. Claims 2, 4, 5, 9-11 and 15-17, however, were indicated as being allowable if rewritten into independent form. Accordingly, the features of claim 15 have been added into claim 1, and claim 15 has been cancelled.

Claims 7, 8, 12, 18-21 and 24 were previously withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. As there is now an allowable generic claim, however, examination of those claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 25-29 were also previously withdrawn as directed to a non-elected invention. Those claims have now been cancelled.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, claims 1-14 and 16-24 are in condition for allowance. Favorable notification to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

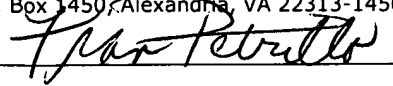

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